GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2002
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN AFFORESTATION
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any target to expand the area of forest cover in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to allow private capital investment in order to expand the forest cover areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposed quantum of private investment to be made in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) the scheme formulated by the Government to encourage afforestation activities on private land?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Forest Policy 1988 prescribes the national goal of having a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Public Private partnership in forestry is one of the proposed interventions to mobilize resources for forestry sector in the country to increase forest and tree cover. No state-wise requirement of fund has been worked out so far.

(e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies Scheme, which provides support for tree planting on various categories of lands including community lands to Registered Non-profit organisations, Registered Societies, Cooperatives, Recognised Schools, Colleges, and Universities, etc.